

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: B/C Patrick Ferguson  
(614) 645-7859

**DIVISION OF FIRE ASKS RESIDENTS TO CHANGE SMOKE  
DETECTOR BATTERIES DURING “SPRING FORWARD” RITUAL**

[COLUMBUS-OH] The City of Columbus Division of Fire asks all residents to change their smoke alarm batteries when resetting their clocks this weekend as part of the annual daylight saving time routine.

“It is important to have a smoke alarm. However, it must be working in order to save lives,” said Columbus Division of Fire Chief Greg A. Paxton. “Changing the battery and clearing dust from detectors are easy ways to add layers of protection to a home.”

Most clocks, cell phones and computers will automatically update to the time change, moving forward from 2am to 3am. However, stoves, microwaves and car radios need to be updated manually.

Studies have shown that smoke alarms can reduce the chance of dying in a fire by 50%. For the best protection, install smoke alarms on every level of the home including the basement, outside each sleeping area and in every bedroom. For more information on proper fire alarm and smoke detector installation contact your nearest fire station.

Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, March 9 at 2 am and clocks are set forward one hour. This “spring ahead” routine is a good reminder to make sure that smoke alarms are in good working condition.